

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 227370 TOSEC 270111

63

ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAB-01 SS-15 SSO-00 CCO-00 /027 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/PAN:SMBELL

APPROVED BY ARA:WHLUERS

S/AB:EBUNKER

S/S-O:DLMACK

----- 113353

P 142359Z SEP 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 227370 TOSEC 270111

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM LUERS, ACTING

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.) PFOR, PN

SUBJECT:BRIEFING MEMORANDUM: DEMONSTRATIONS IN PANAMA

1. STUDENTS HAVE BEEN DEMONSTRATING IN PANAMA CITY SINCE SEPTEMBER 10 AND ARE CONTINUING TODAY (SEPTEMBER 14), PROTESTING AGAINST COST-OF-LIVING RISES, CHILEAN AUTHORITARIANISM, AND OTHER THINGS THAT OCCUR TO THEM -- BUT NOT, SO FAR, AGAINST THE UNITED STATES.

2. NO FATALITIES THUS FAR, BUT A NUMBER OF HOSPITALIZATIONS, MANY ARRESTS, SIGNIFICANT PROPERTY DAMAGE IN THE CITY'S CENTER, SOME LOOTING.

3. JORDEN REPORTS THAT THE MAIN POINTS FOR THE UNITED STATES ARE: (1) SPONTANEOUS EVENTS LIKE THIS COULD REOCCUR AT ANY TIME, GIVEN UNDERLYING SOCIAL-ECONOMIC-POLITICAL PROBLEMS; (2) THEY COULD, AT ANY TIME, CHANGE DIRECTION -- AGAINST US (THE EMBASSY AND THE CANAL ZONE) RATHER THAN AGAINST TORRIJOS; AND (3) THE UNITED STATES, BY DELAYING THE RESUMPTION OF TREATY TALKS, IS IN SOME

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MEASURE INVITING THAT CHANGE IN DIRECTION.

4. TORRIJOS IS ALREADY TRYING TO DEFLECT ATTENTION FROM THE STUDENTS' COMPLAINTS BY LAYING SOME BLAME ON US:

-- BOYD HAS BEEN SAYING PUBLICLY THAT THE UNITED STATES IS NOT PURSUING TREATY TALKS SERIOUSLY DURING ITS POLITICAL PROCESS;

-- PANAMANIAN AMBASSADOR (AND DEPUTY NEGOTIATOR) GONZALEZ-REVILLA HAS BEEN SUDDENLY CALLED TO PANAMA CITY FOR CONSULTATION.

-- THE DAY GONZALEZ LEFT A PANAMANIAN EMBASSY SPOKESMAN HERE (READ GONZALEZ) INFORMED UPI, INTER ALIA, THAT BUNKER HAD TOLD HIM AT A RECENT LUNCHEON THAT THE DELAY IN NEGOTIATIONS IS ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE FAILURE OF THE WHITE HOUSE TO AUTHORIZE RESUMPTION OF TALKS IN SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER. (BUNKER, IN FACT, WAS NOT NEARLY SO CATEGORICAL, STATING SIMPLY THAT AS YOU POINTED OUT TO BOYD IN SANTIAGO, THE NEGOTIATORS WERE NOT PREPARED AT THIS STAGE TO GO INTO TALKS ON THE HARD ISSUES OF DURATION AND DEFENSE AND WERE AWAITING WHITE HOUSE VIEWS ON THE TIMING AND AGENDA OF THE NEXT NEGOTIATING ROUND.)

5. JORDEN IS SEEING BOYD THIS AFTERNOON, TO SAY THAT PRIVILEGED TALKS BETWEEN NEGOTIATORS ARE SUPPOSED TO BE PRIVILEGED TALKS; THAT WE ARE WORKING OUT THE BEST WAY -- FOR BOTH SIDES -- OF RESUMING NEGOTIATING SESSIONS; AND THAT ANY PANAMANIAN EXTRAVAGANZA AT THE UNGA ON THE ISSUE OF "STALLED" TALKS WOULD BE EXCEEDINGLY UNHELPFUL. (YOU HAVE ALREADY AGREED TO HAVE A BILATERAL WITH BOYD. NOTE THAT BOYD ASSUMES THE PRESIDENCY OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL IN NOVEMBER.)

6. BUNKER HAS TALKED WITH THE WHITE HOUSE AND HOPES TO HAVE AN INDICATION SOON OF ITS PREFERENCES RESPECTING NEW, INFORMAL, "NON-SUBSTANTIVE" TALKS.

7. CONCLUSION: IN "MANAGING" THE PANAMA PROBLEM THROUGH THE NOVEMBER ELECTIONS, WE CAN HANDLE TORRIJOS' PUBLIC SECRET

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PAGE 01 STATE 227370

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ORIGIN ARA-02

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAB-01 CCO-00 /004 R

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DRAFTED BY: ARA/PAN:SMBELL

APPROVED BY: ARA:WHLUERS

S/AB:EBUNKER

S/S-O:LRMACFARLANE

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P 160243Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 227370

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 227370 ACTION USDEL SECRETARY DTD 14 SEP 76.

QTE: S E C R E T STATE 227370 TOSEC 270111

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM LUERS, ACTING

E.O. 11652: GDS

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PAGE 02 STATE 227370

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4. TORRIJOS IS ALREADY TRYING TO DEFLECT ATTENTION FROM THE STUDENTS' COMPLAINTS BY LAYING SOME BLAME ON US:

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PAGE 03 STATE 227370

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PAGE 01 STATE 227370

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

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APPROVED BY:ARA/PAN:RWYROUGH

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R 180305Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

S E C R E T STATE 227370

FOLLOWING SECSTATE 227370 SENT ACTION USDEL
SECRETARY SEP. 14; PANAMA SEPT. 16; REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

QUOTE

S E C R E T STATE 227370 TOSEC 270111

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM LUERS, ACTING

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.) PFOR, PN

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PAGE 01 STATE 227370

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ORIGIN ARA-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

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DRAFTED BY: ARA/PAN:JPBECKER:ZC
APPROVED BY: ARA/PAN:RRWYROUGH
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R 190420Z SEP 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO 3167

S E C R E T STATE 227370

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION USUN, TEGUCIGALPA FROM STATE
SEPT 18:

QUOTE S E C R E T STATE 227370

FOLLOWING SECSTATE 227370 SENT ACTION USDEL
SECRETARY SEP. 14; PANAMA SEPT. 16; REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

QUOTE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE227370
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: SMBELL
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760347-0131
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760961/aaaabzwp.tel
Line Count: 472
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 9
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 MAY 2004 by woolflhd>; APPROVED <15 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BRIEFING MEMORANDUM: DEMONSTRATIONS IN PANAMA
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To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006